

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of
Information

Selected Speeches and News Releases

August 24 - August 31, 1989

IN THIS ISSUE:

News Releases—

USDA Announces Prevailing World Market Price for Upland Cotton

Cost of Food for July USDA Releases Cost of Food at Home for July

USDA Announces Prevailing World Market Rice Prices

USDA Announces Preliminary Loan and Purchase Rate for 1989 Crop
Soybeans

USDA Decides Animal Welfare Act Compliance Case

USDA Expands 24 Resource Conservation and Development Areas

Pig Disease Found for the First Time in U.S.

USDA Issues Changes to Animal Welfare Regulations

News Releases

U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of Information

USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR UPLAND COTTON

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-4.9) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Aug. 25, through midnight Thursday, Aug. 31.

Since the adjusted world price (AWP) is above the 1987, 1988 and 1989 crop base quality loan rates of 52.25, 51.80 and 50.00 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rates for the 1987, 1988 and 1989 crops of upland cotton during this period are equal to the respective loan rates for the specific quality and location.

The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates. Because the AWP in effect is above the established loan rate, loan deficiency payments are not available for 1989-crop upland cotton sold during this period.

Based on data for the week ending Aug. 3, the AWP for upland cotton and the coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price

Northern Europe Price	83.14
Adjustments:	
Average U.S. spot market location	12.07
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton	2.20
Average U.S. location	0.39
Sum of Adjustments	<u>-14.66</u>
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE	68.48 cents/lb.

Coarse Count Adjustment

Northern Europe Price	83.14
Northern Europe Coarse Count Price	<u>-78.87</u>
	4.27
Adjustment to SLM 1-inch cotton	<u>-4.75</u>
	-0.48
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT	0 cents/lb.

The next AWP and coarse count adjustment announcement will be made on Aug. 31.

Charles Cunningham (202) 447-7954

#

COST OF FOOD FOR JULY USDA RELEASES COST OF FOOD AT HOME FOR JULY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24—Here is the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s monthly update of the weekly cost of food at home for July 1989:

Cost of food at home for a week in July 1989

	-----Food plans----- (In Dollars)			
	Thrifty	Low-cost	Moderate cost	Liberal
Families:				
Family of 2 (20-50 years)	45.20	56.60	70.10	87.10
Family of 2 (51 years and over)	42.70	54.40	67.20	80.50
Family of 4 with preschool children	65.70	81.40	99.60	122.40
Family of 4 with elemen- tary schoolchildren	75.30	95.70	119.90	144.30
Individuals in four-person families:				
Children:				
1-2 years	11.80	14.30	16.70	20.10
3-5 years	12.80	15.60	19.20	23.10
6-8 years	15.60	20.70	25.90	30.10
9-11 years	18.60	23.50	30.30	35.00

Females:				
12-19 years	19.30	23.10	28.00	33.90
20-50 years	19.50	24.10	29.30	37.60
51 and over	19.20	23.40	29.00	34.60
Males:				
12-14 years	19.50	26.70	33.30	39.00
15-19 years	20.20	27.60	34.20	39.80
20-50 years	21.60	27.40	34.40	41.60
51 and over	19.60	26.10	32.10	38.60

USDA’s Human Nutrition Information Service computes the cost of food at home for four food plans—thrifty, low-cost, moderate-cost, and liberal.

Dr. James T. Heimbach, acting administrator of the Human Nutrition Information Service, said the plans consist of foods that provide well-balanced meals and snacks for a week.

In computing the costs, USDA assumes all food is bought at the store and prepared at home. Costs do not include alcoholic beverages, pet food, soap, cigarettes, paper goods, and other nonfood items bought at the store.

“USDA costs are only guides to spending,” Heimbach said. “Families may spend more or less, depending on such factors as where they buy their food, how carefully they plan and buy, whether some food is produced at home, what foods the family likes, and how much food is prepared at home.

“Most families will find the moderate-cost or low-cost plan suitable,” he said. “The thrifty plan, which USDA uses to set the coupon allotment in the food stamp program, is for families who have tighter budgets. Families with unlimited resources might use the liberal plan.”

To use the chart to estimate your family’s food costs:

- For members eating all meals at home—or carried from home—use the amounts shown in the chart.
- For members eating some meals out, deduct 5 percent from the amount shown for each meal not eaten at home. Thus, for a person eating lunch out 5 days a week, subtract 25 percent, or one-fourth the cost shown.

—For guests, add 5 percent of the amount shown for the proper age group for each meal.

Costs in the second part of the chart are for individuals in four-person families. If your family has more or less than four, total the “individual” figures and make these adjustments, because larger families tend to buy and use food more economically than smaller ones:

—For a one-person family, add 20 percent.

—For a two-person family, add 10 percent.

—For a three-person family, add 5 percent.

—For a five or six-person family, subtract 5 percent.

—For a family of seven or more, subtract 10 percent.

Details of the four family food plans are available from the Nutrition Education Division, HNIS, USDA, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Gerald Smith (301) 436-8617

#

USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

—long grain whole kernels, 12.46 cents per pound;

—medium grain whole kernels, 11.23 cents per pound;

—short grain whole kernels, 11.11 cents per pound;

—broken kernels, 6.23 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

—long grain, \$7.70 per hundredweight;

—medium grain, \$7.02 per hundredweight;

—short grain, \$6.78 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Sept. 5, at 3 p.m. EDT, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-7923

#

USDA ANNOUNCES PRELIMINARY LOAN AND PURCHASE RATE FOR 1989 CROP SOYBEANS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today announced a preliminary loan and purchase rate for 1989 crop soybeans of \$4.53 per bushel. The final price support rate will be announced by Oct. 1.

Yeutter said that a marketing loan program will not be implemented for the 1989 crop of soybeans.

All producers of 1989 crop soybeans will be eligible for loans and purchases. Soybeans are ineligible for any reserve program or farm storage payments.

A regulatory impact analysis on the 1989 soybean program may be obtained from: Director, Commodity Analysis Division, USDA/ASCS, Room 3741-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013.

For additional information contact: Orville Overboe, telephone (202) 447-4418.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-6787

#

USDA DECIDES ANIMAL WELFARE ACT COMPLIANCE CASE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—The U.S. Department of Agriculture settled one case during July to enforce the humane care and treatment of animals regulated under the Animal Welfare Act.

James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the case resulted from earlier charges. Details are:

—Theodore L. Lippold and Mary Lippold of Corning, Iowa, were ordered by an administrative law judge to cease and desist from future violations of the Animal Welfare Act and, in particular, from operating without a federal license. Also, the Lippolds were each assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty and were disqualified from applying for an animal dealer's license for six months and continuing until they demonstrate to USDA officials that they are in full compliance with prescribed standards of the act. The monetary penalty is suspended as long as the Lippolds comply with all terms of the decision and order.

USDA alleged that between May 2, 1986, and March 17, 1987, the Lippolds sold a total of 44 dogs and 1 cat without having the required license to sell dogs or cats wholesale.

In addition to the case settled in July, one new charge of violating the act was initiated, Glosser said. The animal exhibitor charged will have an opportunity to respond and request a hearing before an administrative law judge.

Standards for the care and treatment of certain animals have been required by the Animal Welfare Act since 1966. Animals protected by the law must be provided adequate housing, handling, sanitation, food, water, transportation, veterinary care and protection against extremes of weather and temperature. The law covers animals that are sold wholesale as pets, used for biomedical research or exhibited.

Most enforcement is carried out under administrative law procedures in lieu of criminal trials. In many civil cases, accused parties use a provision of administrative law that allows them to accept a penalty without a hearing and, in some cases, without admitting or denying the charges. Other civil cases are resolved by a federal administrative law judge, who hears testimony and reviews briefs by the parties before handing down a decision. Failure to respond to USDA charges constitutes admission of guilt, and penalties are assessed by an administrative law judge. Either party may appeal a decision.

Dealers and breeders as well as brokers, transportation companies, exhibitors and research facilities must be licensed or registered. USDA personnel make periodic, unannounced inspections to help assure compliance. Action is taken against violators after efforts to secure compliance are unsuccessful, Glosser said.

Questa Glenn (301) 436-7799

#

USDA EXPANDS 24 RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29—Twenty-four Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Areas have been expanded as part of USDA's rural revitalization efforts.

“We're looking forward to working with more communities to help local people improve their economy and conserve natural resources,” said

Wilson Scaling, chief of USDA's Soil Conservation Service, which administers the program.

“We're proud of the accomplishments of RC&D areas, which get their strength from local leaders, and we're proud to be part of this effort to make things happen in rural development.”

The RC&D program, established 25 years ago, works through local RC&D councils and their committees. The program assists RC&D councils to set their own goals and then identify local agencies, groups, and foundations to fund and carry out these actions. USDA provides each area with a project coordinator.

Council members represent sponsoring organizations, including county governments, soil and water conservation districts, towns, water districts, and other nonprofit groups. Today, 4,000 council members and 11,000 resource committee members volunteer their time in 189 RC&D areas nationwide.

Through their efforts, they have improved local water supplies, marketed local products, and improved needed community facilities, including hospitals, schools, and water and sewage treatment plants. They've also accelerated efforts to control erosion, improve recreation facilities, and provide flood protection.

Councils have broad authority to seek help from the sources they feel are best qualified to provide the needed assistance. The help may be technical assistance from USDA agencies and other federal agencies, state and local governments, local conservation districts, or private industry. It may be financial assistance through donations, loans, grants, or cost-sharing programs.

In fiscal 1988, RC&D councils completed 1,304 actions costing \$145 million. About 9 percent of these funds came from the RC&D program; the rest came from other federal programs and state and local organizations.

The expansion of the RC&D areas affects 38 counties in 19 states. They are:

State	Name of RC&D Area	Added Counties
California	High Sierra	Amador
Colorado	East Central Colorado	El Paso (part)
Kentucky	Big Sandy	Lawrence, Boyd
Louisiana	Capital	E. and W. Feliciana, Washington
	Trailblazer	Winn, Jackson
	Twin Valley	Beauregard
Maine	Threshold to Maine	Franklin
	Time and Tide	Androscoggin, Kennebec
Massachusetts	Berkshire-Pioneer	Worcester
Nevada	Carson Walker	Washoe (part)
New Jersey	South Jersey	Middlesex, Monmouth
New Mexico	HUB	McKinley (part), San Juan
	South Central Mountain	Chaves (part)
New York	Sullivan Trail	Seneca
Oklahoma	Cherokee Hills	Nowata, Craig, Wagoner
Pennsylvania	Headwaters	Center
South Carolina	Lowcountry	Orangeburg
	Santee-Wateree	Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg
Texas	Four Winds	Wilbarger
	Leon-Bosque	Hamilton
Vermont	Northern Vermont	Chittenden, Washington, Orange (part)
Washington (and Idaho)	Idaho-Washington	Whitman
West Virginia	Little Kanawha	Wetzel
Wyoming (and Idaho)	Western Wyoming	Teton (part)

Diana Morse (202) 447-4772

#

PIG DISEASE FOUND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN U.S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30—A type of leptospirosis that causes reproductive problems in swine has been found in stillborn and weak baby pigs for the first time in this country, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists in Ames, Iowa.

Leptospirosis is an infectious disease caused by corkscrew-shaped bacteria, called leptospire. About 180 known types of leptospire cause disease in livestock, said Carole A. Bolin, veterinary medical officer with USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Ames.

She said the disease-causing bacterium, bratislava, was found in diseased pigs from an Iowa herd. Until now, this type of leptospire has been proven to cause disease in pigs only in Europe.

The name bratislava was given to this organism because it was first isolated in 1953 from a hedgehog by a scientist in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.

Bolin said the new study of diseased pigs was done at the ARS National Animal Disease Center in Ames. It was undertaken five months ago under a technology transfer agreement between ARS and Norden Laboratories, a subsidiary of SmithKline Beecham. Norden is headquartered in Lincoln, Neb.

ARS researchers in Ames previously isolated bratislava from healthy sows in 1986. In the current study, bratislava was isolated from infected stillborn and weak pigs by James Cassells, a bacteriologist from Northern Ireland with 20 years of experience in the isolation of leptospire from animals. Cassells was hired by Norden to conduct the isolation studies in collaboration with Bolin and other ARS scientists in Ames.

According to Bolin, the next step is to inoculate pregnant sows with bratislava to establish absolute proof that U.S. isolates of bratislava cause reproductive disease. Laboratory tests need to be conducted to determine the effectiveness of bratislava vaccines in pregnant sows. Norden is marketing two vaccines under conditional USDA licenses and is applying for permanent licensing by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Norden researcher Joseph C. Frantz said "vaccination with the conditionally licensed vaccine protects the animal through one pregnancy against clinical signs caused by bratislava." He recommended vaccination prior to each breeding.

Leptospirosis is transmitted primarily via infected urine. Leptospire pass through the maternal placenta to the fetus. Infection of pregnant sows can result in stillbirths, abortions and infected weak newborns. Another probable cause of infection is suspected to be venereal transmission from infected boars. Infected animals spread the disease by direct contact among other animals. Humans in contact with infected animals or urine can develop leptospirosis. The organisms can survive in water polluted by urine from infected animals.

Leptospirosis in both animals and humans can be either mild or severe and is often misdiagnosed. The disease in humans has been confused with influenza (flu-like symptoms), hepatitis, yellow fever, pneumonia, polio, meningitis and encephalitis.

Outbreaks of a mysterious syndrome causing stillbirths, abortions and pre-weaning death in pigs that began a year ago throughout the Midwest have prompted ARS scientists to look into several possible causes, from bacterial and viral infection to moldy corn. Infection with bristlestar is being studied as one possible contributing factor to this syndrome, said Bolin.

National Animal Disease Center scientists have studied another type of leptospirosis in cattle for 25 years. Leptospirosis in cattle causes stillbirths, weak newborns and abortions. About 10 percent of U.S. dairy and beef cattle are estimated to be infected with leptospire of the hardjo type.

NOTE TO EDITOR: For details, contact Carole A. Bolin, veterinary medical officer, National Animal Disease Center, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, Ames, Iowa 50010. Telephone (515) 239-8325.

Linda Cooke (309) 685-4011

#

USDA ISSUES CHANGES TO ANIMAL WELFARE REGULATIONS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is issuing changes to regulations under the Animal Welfare Act that define requirements for humane handling, care, treatment and transportation of animals regulated under the act.

The changes will require, among other things, research facilities to

create special committees to assure humane care and treatment of regulated laboratory animals.

“These changes will partially implement amendments to the Animal Welfare Act that were passed by Congress in December 1985,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which enforces the act.

The amendments provide new and stricter requirements to protect laboratory animals from undue pain and distress, tighten enforcement of regulations already on the books for regulated animals, and revise the list of definitions necessary to implement the law.

The current regulations define standards for animal use, including minimum requirements for handling, housing, feeding, watering, sanitation, ventilation, shelter and veterinary care. Regulations for dogs, cats and nonhuman primates have been totally revised to make them more complete and easier to understand, thus increasing compliance and making them more effective, Glosser said.

In addition to requirements for research facilities to create special animal care committees, the new regulations contain provisions for attending veterinarians, veterinary care, and holding facilities and handling.

Besides research activities, the Animal Welfare Act covers most businesses that buy or sell warm-blooded animals, exhibit them and transport them commercially. Rats, mice, birds, horses and farm animals are not covered by the regulations.

Federal animal welfare legislation was first passed in 1966 and covered animal dealers who raised dogs and cats for research and laboratories conducting research on these mammals. In 1970, coverage was broadened to include most other warm-blooded animals used in research, exhibited or sold in the wholesale pet trade. A 1976 amendment extended coverage to include the transportation of live animals.

The revised regulations will be published as a final rule in the Aug. 31 Federal Register and will take effect Oct. 30.

Pat El-Hinnawy (301) 436-7253

Diane O’Connor (202) 447-4026

#

